Publication in English of calendars of important Series of Portuguese Records

Resolution by Prof. G.M. Moraes:

Resolved that a committee of experts be set up for advising the Directorate of Archives (Government of Goa, Daman and Diu) in the preparation and publication in English of calendars of the Series: Moncoes do Reino (Monsoon Records as popularly known, 1560-1914) for the use of scholars working in the field of the medieval period of Indian history.

Explanatory Note: In view of the rapidly diminishing ranks of scholars well-versed in deciphering and interpreting Portuguese records, it is most urgent that the Government of Goa, Daman and Diu takes immediate steps for the preparation and publication in English of calendars of important series of records in the Historical Archives of Goa.

The moncoes do Reino afford a clear picture of the interstatal relations in medieval India as observed by Portuguese authorities, besides yielding material for the economic and social history of the period.

I have been of the opinion since delving into Portuguese records - an opinion which finds support in the late Sir Jadunath Sarkar's Shivaji and his Times - that the Historical Archives of Goa contains material which, when systematically studied, is capable of revolutionizing the history of medieval India as it has come down to us through British and other sources.

In order to implement the project it is essential that a committee be appointed, consisting of the following scholars:

1. Prof. Nurul Hasan (in personal capacity as Chairman)
2. Prof. S.A.I. Tirmizi (in personal capacity)
3. Rev. Dr. John Correia Afonso
4. Dr. B.S. Shastri
5. Prof. Mathew (Baroda)
6. Prof. G.M. Moraes

with

Dr. P.P. Shirodkar in his official capacity as Secretary thereof.

Standing Committee's views:

In pursuance of Resolution V passed at the 47th Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission, the Government of India have constituted a Committee to advise the National Archives of India on Publication of Descriptive Lists/Calendars and preparation of Statistical Abstracts of the Inayat Jang Collection Similarly the Government of Goa, Daman and Diu may like to constitute a Committee for advising the Directorate of Goa Archives for publication in English of calendars of important Portuguese records housed in that Archives. In addition to the names referred to in the Explanatory Note Dr. Titonio D' Souza may also be associated with the publication programme of the Portuguese records.

A selection for publication of these records with a critical introduction and annotations will go a long way to meet the needs of the students and research scholars. The Resolution deserves full support.